

REMARKS

The present Preliminary Amendment is presented in compliance with a Decision on Petition in the above referenced application, mailed July 17, 2002. This Preliminary Amendment cancels references to FIGURE 4 in the specification of the present application in order to avoid delays in the examination of the present application as required by the Decision.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the present Preliminary Amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Applicant believes no fee is due with this Amendment. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 06-2380, under Order No. 30014515-1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

If Applicants' attorney can be of any assistance in advancing prosecution of the present application he may be contacted at the telephone number listed below.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail No. EL315116799US in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit: November 12, 2002

Typed Name: Kristin Mattern

Signature: K Mattern

Respectfully submitted,

By: Jerry L. Mahurin
Jerry L. Mahurin
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 34,661
Date: November 12, 2002
Telephone No. (214) 855-8386

Version With Markings to Show Changes Made

In the Specification

[0012] FIGURE 2 is a diagrammatic illustration of an example of a data library employing a preferred embodiment of the present invention; and

[0013] FIGURE 3 is a flow chart of operation of a preferred method according to a preferred embodiment [; and] .

[0014] [FIGURE 4 is a flow chart of a preferred embodiment of an importation method of a medium in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.]

[0043] A method [Turning to FIGURE 4 method 400], in accordance with the present invention, replaces [is illustrated for replacing] a unique identifier in a medium CM with another, different, unique identifier. Such a unique identifier swap-out may be desirable to facilitate movement of media from one physical library to another, such as may take place in a library upgrade. In such a swap-out, the partition the medium is placed in belongs to the same customer as the medium's original partition but the identifier in the new library is different due to the new library having a different set of physical drives. Additionally, "used" tapes introduced into a library will preferably have any unique identifier residing in CM replaced, in accordance with this method [400]. This method [Method 400] is preferably preformed as part of an import procedure for the medium into the library and preformed out-of-band via the RMC and/or controller, with instructions to the drive(s) being issued over the ACI. [At box 401 a] A medium with a unique identifier residing in CM is added to a library via an import/export slot. Preferably using a RMC user interface or the front panel of the library, the imported medium is moved [, at box 402,] from the import/export slot to a storage element slot in a library partition. In the case of a swap-out, the partition would preferably be one secured for use by a same customer as a partition from which the medium was exported in another library. Then [, at box 403,] the robotics of the library are directed, via the front panel or RMC interface, to place the medium in a drive of the partition. The old unique identifier in CM is overwritten [at box 405] by the new drive with a unique identifier associated with the drive and/or the partition. Preferably [at box 404], positive confirmation via the front panel or RMC interface is required to overwrite the unique identifier to insure partition integrity. If this positive confirmation is not provided [at box 404] the medium is preferably ejected [at box 406]. This method [Method 400] is preferably carried out manually, as a automatic process would allow one to defeat partition security.